

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DRAKES BROUGHTON AND WADBOROUGH WITH PIRTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 4th AUGUST 2022 AT 7.30 PM AT DRAKES BROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT: Cllr J Butterworth (Chair), Cllr T Pell, Cllr A Tanfield, Cllr A Crouchman, Cllr Williams & Cllr Boniface

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Linda Robinson, District Councillor Mark Ward & Mrs N Nicholson (Clerk)

PUBLIC: One

1) APOLOGIES: Cllr Murphy, Cllr R Bessant, Cllr Yeo, Cllr Small, Cllr Roberts & Cllr Turner

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3) MEMBER VACANCY PIRTON & DRAKES BROUGHTON

The Chair advised that the vacancy for the Pirton Ward remained unfilled but was still widely advertised.

The Chair advised that Cllr Cullen had resigned during the month and that the statutory notice was displayed until 10th August, if no election was called the vacancy could then be advertised with a view to fill the seat via co-option.

4) MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting held on 7th July 2022 were proposed by Cllr Boniface, seconded by Cllr Williams, agreed by all and signed by the Chair as a true record.

5) MATTERS ARISING

Trees on Playing field – The Chair advised Members that resident/owner of the trees had not responded to the letter sent last month and no further work had been undertaken on the second tree. The Clerk was asked to write to the resident once again.

Pirton Bench –The Chair advised the bench had been secured by the Parish Gang at last and looked really good. The Chair thanked Cllr Tanfield for her tenacity with ordering, storing, and re-storing and chasing over the last 12 months to get this in place. County Councillor Robinson was also thanked as she had purchased the bench for Pirton out of her divisional fund.

Flooding on the playing field – District Councillor Ward advised that having discussed the matter with Martyn Cross at WDC, the only enforcement that could be pursued legally was in in-fill of the ditch over the incorrect pipes. There would be no legal recourse via WDC on the potential in-fill of the manhole within the Elan Homes site and subsequent flooding on the PC Playing fields as it cannot be proven. The Chair advised that the CCTV had shown that the drainage pipe was blocked under the Elan Homes site and that Elan Homes had agreed to a sub scan and to share these results, at the time saying that if it was found that they had blocked the man hole they would rectify the matter. The assistance the PC was asking for from WDC was to get the Elan Homes sub scan report to prove if there was a blocked manhole or not and after 12 months the answer that WDC would not support the PC was shocking! Cllr Ward would once again speak with M Cross to see if WDC could lend any further support to the Parish Council.

Waborough Crossroads – County Councillor Robinson advised that she and the Highways liaison officer had met with the residents once again. The residents are unwilling to reduce the height of the hedge and the Highways liaison officer has now allowed the use of the visibility mirror. It is thought that the Wadborough residents committee would fund the necessary insurance. Cllr Crouchman was asked to clarify this to ensure ongoing annual insurance would be in place.

Cllr Crouchman advised that the white lines denoting the junction had been re-painted.

Wadborough Verges – Cllr Robinson advised that the 4 properties with prominent roadside hazards/markers had been written to and asked to remove them.

Wadborough litter bin – The Clerk advised that the proposed site for the litter bin had been approved and that the cost would be £306.70 initial outlay, to include install, admin and first year of emptying. It would then cost the PC £63 PA for the ongoing emptying. Cllr Crouchman wanted to take those costs back to ask the residents of Wadborough to confirm that they were happy for their precept money to go towards this new bin installation.

Pedestrian Crossing Worcester Road – County Councillor Robinson advised that there was an issue with the lights and further work would be required before they were operational. She had been advised there was a long lead time to get the required work done, currently she was not being advised what exactly the problem was.

A discussion arose regarding the dangers of crossing the road and previous requests to reduce the speed limit had been met with the advice that the pedestrian lights would slow the pace of the traffic. Members advised that the Bovis site was well occupied and many school children would be trying to cross that road without the traffic lights come September. Cllr Robinson was asked to speak to Highways to see if a temporary pedestrian crossing could be put in place while the work was being waited for and or a temporary 30PMH zone.

Cllr Robinson did say that the criteria for reducing the road to 30MPH was that the driveways went directly onto the carriageway and due to the slip roads into both Bovis and Sanctuary Homes developments, the road did not meet 30MPH criteria. Members pointed out that there were a number of properties with driveways directly onto the B4084.

Bus Services – Cllr Pell advised that there appeared to be a further threat to bus services and that a letter had been sent from the Vale Transport Group to local MP's this would be circulated to members.

Community Notice Board – The Chair advised that Sanctuary Homes had offered to fund a community notice board and that a site needed to be decided upon. She asked DB Members to advise her of a good position that would cover the top end of the village as there was already the PC notice board opposite the shops.

Open Space Consultation on phase 2 – The Chair advised that a date needed to be set for a consultation and she would need volunteers to leaflet drop to all residents bordering the playing field. It was suggested a consultation be held during the pop-up café on a Friday. Cllr Pell, Cllr Williams and Cllr Boniface volunteered to leaflet drop and help run the consultation.

6.) FINANCE

Internal Audit: The Chair advised that the internal auditor had asked for her fee to be increased to £100 as the time the audit took was longer than anticipated with larger sums of money passing through the PC accounts than in previous years. This was proposed by Cllr Pell and seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed by all.

The monthly bank reconciliation for June had been completed by Cllr Tanfield. The Chair advised that she had proposed that Cllr Murphy and Cllr Bessant be trained to complete the bank reconciliation over the coming months so that there was someone in each ward to check the bank reconciliation.

It was proposed by Cllr Boniface and seconded by Cllr Butterworth to authorise the following payments:

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| a) Mrs. N Nicholson – Clerk Salary – July(S/O) | £501.55 |
| b) Mr B Arrowsmith – Lengthsman Services – July | £240.00 |

c) Mrs S Carlisle – internal audit fee	£100.00
d) Drakes Broughton Village Hall – Jubilee Grant	£100.00
(The Clerk advised only £60 had been sent the previous month when it should have been £160)	
e) Smart Cut Ltd – Grass cutting July	£176.12
(The Clerk advised this included a credit note for some missed cutting in Pirton)	
f) Mrs N Nicholson – quarterly contribution towards line rental	£60.00
g) Mrs n Nicholson – quarterly OPE, including printer ink	£79.69
h) SSE – Streetlight electricity – July	£478.03

Remittance:

WCC S106 for cycle stands and fitting at the Village Hall. £502.80

7.) VILLAGE HALL – Update

The Chair advised that work behind the scenes is continuing to ensure the Village Hall becomes a vibrant hub for the Community. The Fundraising group (Friends of the Village Hall) has been replaced with an Events Group and it is anticipated that this group will help make the Hall into a social hub for the community. Signage is required for the Village Hall and a car parking sign advising which are the Village Hall car parking spaces and that parking it at one’s own risk. The EV Charging points, and the cycle stands still need to be installed. There has been a need to add temporary notices to stop adults exercising on the verandas using the poles and benches!

8.) GROUND MAINTAINANCE PLAYPARK

The Chair advised that the Clerk had received costs from Smart Cut Ltd to undertake the additional strimming (£20 per fortnight) to clean the safety surfaces (£20 per fortnight) Smart Cut Ltd had offered to do the weed killing too (£47.50 6 weekly) This was less than being paid before and it was agreed for Smart Cut to be instructed with a review over time. The litter bins at the Play Park had been full this week and required additional emptying, this can be accommodated by WDC at a cost of £32 seasonally, it was agreed that this be put in place May – October. Some keys for the bins had been obtained from WDC and any additional emptying could then be done ad hoc as required by volunteers. Litter appeared to only be an issue when the bins were full. The Village Hall management had requested an additional bin to be obtained for near the entrance sign as rubbish was being left there as users exited the park. The Clerk was asked to obtain costs for a further WDC bin.

Other tasks included in the original Groundwork contract included cleaning of the furniture and signage which was thought could be covered during the community litter picking days.

The area would be closely monitored to see if this was working before any further action was taken.

9.) AREA OUTSIDE THE SHOPS – Progress update

The Chair advised that meeting the meeting held with the shop keepers on 11th July had been positive and that it had been agreed to assist the shop keepers by obtaining quotes for them to refurbish the steps, wall and apron surrounding the shops. There were some other issues raised by the shop keepers, but these were not publicly used areas.

10.) BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW

The Chair advised that the Boundaries Commission had completely reviewed the original Boundary suggestion and that DBWPPC was now coupled with Whittington and Norton. There was a big concern in Pirton regarding being a small rural community whose needs could be completely overlooked with the more urban wards taking priority. It was discussed how traditionally DBWPPC was coupled with Stoulton sharing the Windmill Lane boundary and being affected by many similar issues. Members noted that DBWPPC were

much more closely aligned with Pershore than the Whittington & Norton Wards, for example children attending Pershore High School, residents attending Pershore doctors & Dentists. It was decided an objection compiling all these elements would be drafted and circulated in time for the Clerk to submit by the 8th August deadline.

11.)SWDPR – Update

The Chair advised that a further meeting for the Parishes committee with WDC was scheduled for 11th August. It is hoped that there will be a change in format to previous meetings and this time there will be the opportunity for questions raised by the Parish Councils to be answered. As soon as there is a revised date for the public consultation the Parish Council will meet and make plans for how the Parish Council can try to ensure that residents have an awareness of the SWDPR and in particular more information of the proposed development around Worcestershire Parkway.

12.)DBRFC – UPDATE INCLUDING MEMORADUM OF UNDERSTANDING, STORE & GARAGES

The Chair advised that there had been a number of recent changes in the football club hierarchy including a new Chair.

DBRFC have asked that the memorandum be initially put in place for 12 months so it can be trialled with regular communications between PC, DBRFC and the Village Hall committee.

It was noted that the football club had grown substantially in the last 4 years and that the pitches at Drakes Broughton were not enough to accommodate them all, the club is looking to use other pitches at Norton and Pinvin. It is hoped that this coupled with a trial MOU and regular communication, all parties will find a successful way forward.

It was noted that the DBRFC is hugely important to the Village of Drakes Broughton and the PC was making every effort to accommodate the thriving club alongside the new Community Village Hall & Play Park. Parking, maintenance and adherence to the rules etc being of utmost importance.

The agreement makes provision for training on 2 evenings a week and for matches on Saturdays between 9 and 1pm. This is consistent with the use that the football club have made of the pitches/ field in previous years.

13.)REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS – Reports from County & District Councillors had been circulated prior to the meeting.

County Councillor Robinson asked the Clerk to publish her report on the PC webpage.

Members Reports

Cllr Crouchman advised on her dismay that the dentist in Pershore is no longer offering NHS spaces and that as far as she is aware there is now no NHS dentist available in Pershore and indeed many people will struggle to afford access a dentist, in a time with the Country struggling with the cost of living. She warned of deterioration in health especially for the most vulnerable in the community.

Cllr Tanfield advised that there remained exposed cables with an unsightly red and white barrier on the Village green in Pirton – it is thought that this is Openreach work.

Cllr Williams asked if DBRFC had female /mixed teams after the huge success of the England women's football team at the weekend. The Chair confirmed that they are mixed teams accepting girls up to 12 years old as per the FA guidelines.

Cllr Williams advised that the hedge by the Plough & Harrow was still restricting highway visibility.

Cllr Boniface advised that the Pershore Volunteer Centre was now offering a number of day trips and excursions.

14.) PERIODIC HIGHWAYS REVIEW – Including tasks for lengthsman

The Chair thanked Cllr Roberts and Cllr Small for reviewing the Highways and reporting local issues.

It was noted that WDC had ceased their grass cutting during the dry spell, it was thought that the corner of Shrubbery & Hawthorn Close reported by a resident the previous month was again looking unsightly. The Chair asked the Clerk to ask the lengthsman to tidy it whilst WDC weren't cutting.

15.) PLANNING

- a) Comments made on planning applications to Wychavon: W/22/01446/GPDQ. Rookery Nook, Worcester Road, Drakes Broughton. Notification for prior approval for the proposed change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion under ref: 20/02262/GPDQ – variation of condition 1. No Objection.
W/22/00947/HP Two Springs, Besford Road, Wadborough. Retrospective application for the alteration/extension of an existing link/conservatory room and pitched roof garage to habitable family rooms. No objection.
- b) Applications Approved: W/22/01234/HP. 1 The firs, Worcester Road, Drakes Broughton. Proposed ancillary home office.
W/22/01123/HP. 42 Beech Ave, Drakes Broughton. Rear single storey flat roofed extension.
W/22/00973/CU Hyde Farm, Worcester Road, Pinvin. Change of use of land for expansion of existing holiday accommodation site to include 15no. additional holiday lodges; 10no. glamping pitches, surface water attenuation pond, wildlife lakes and associated walk through; site office/reception building; and orchard planting as approved under planning permission ref: 20/00257/CU – variation of condition 17.
W/22/0974/HP. Two Springs, Besford Road, Wadborough. Retrospective application for the alteration/extension of an existing link/conservatory room and pitched roof garage to habitable family rooms.
- c) Applications Refused: N/A
- d) Applications withdrawn: W/22/01167/FUL 28A Shrubbery Road, Drakes Broughton. Proposed 2-bedroom flat above the existing shop and adjacent to existing flats above shops.
- e) Applications Awaiting comment: N/A
- f) Appeals: APP/H1840/W/22/3295278. Thorndon Grove, Windmill Lane, Stoulton. Conversion of existing barns including link extension, to replace approved residential conversion. Resubmission of planning permission 20/01714/FUL to include two storey rear extension.

APP/H1840/W/22/3297867. Land to the south of Walcot lane, Drakes Broughton. Errection of 12no dwellings and new access.

The Chair advised that this land was not in the current SWDP and was outside the village boundary as identified by the current Neighborhood Plan adopted by referendum in 2017. The Chair advised that the last time this was applied for, being 10 houses, that was refused on appeal. 44 residents had submitted objections and that there were drainage considerations from the Elan Homes site and that it was one of the last remaining green spaces in the village.

The Chair suggested that a notice be placed on the Facebook notice board to make all residents aware and enable people to write to the inspectorate and that a summary objection be submitted by the Clerk from the PC.

A discussion was had including the District Councillor regarding how this land can be coming for a second appeal and the Chair had hoped that WDC planning would be making their own points on this. It was also discussed that the land had appeared in the first round of consultations on the SWDPR. It is hoped to see it removed by the next stage on consultation.

16.) VANISHED LAND DRAIN PIRTON

The Chair advised that the vanished land drain in Pirton raised to the PC at the annual Parish Meeting was being investigated by WCC Highways, but there may have been some confusion as it was completely invisible and the last site visit had resulted in some more tarmac added, when it is in fact requiring unearthing.

17.)CORRESPONDENCE

- Resident re Sanctuary Homes price release – referred to District Councillor
- Resident re overhanging tree Croome Close – reported to WCC
- Request for football training on the pitches – declined due to the agreement with DBRFC
- Croome Estate regarding woodland at Station Road
- WCC Minerals plan adoption
- Resident regarding Sanctuary Homes use of adjoining field
- Freedom of information request re co-option
- Resident regarding phase 2 Open Spaces consultation – raising an objection to any suggested skate park.

18.)INFORMATION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council will be meeting on **Thursday 8th September** 2022 at 7.30pm at Drakes Broughton Village Hall

Meeting closed 21.10.